

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1. - 8. (Canceled)

9. (Currently Amended) The method according to claim 138, wherein the factor is administered simultaneously with, or continuously to, or separately from mesenchymal stem cells.

10. (Canceled)

11. (Currently Amended) The method according to claim 813, wherein the injured tissue results from osteoarthritis, bone fracture, loss of alveolar bone or jaw bone, cerebral infarction, myocardial infarction, or lower limb ischemia.

12. (Canceled)

13. (Currently Amended) A method of localizing mesenchymal stem cells to an injury site, which comprises administering to a patient in need thereof mesenchymal stem cells and a mesenchymal stem cell migration-enhancing factor, thereby enhancing the migration and accumulation of the administered mesenchymal stem cells in the injured tissue or suppressing the diffusion of the administered mesenchymal stem cells from the injured tissue to enhance regeneration of the injured tissue,

wherein the mesenchymal stem cell migration-enhancing factor is selected from the group consisting of Epidermal Growth Factor (EGF), Heparin Binding Epidermal Growth Factor (HB-EGF), Transforming Growth Factor-alpha (TGF- α), α -thrombin, Platelet-Derived Growth Factor-AB (PDGF-AB), Platelet-Derived Growth Factor-BB (PDGF-BB), basic Fibroblast Growth Factor (bFGF), hyaluronic acid, Insulin-like Growth Factor-1 (IGF-1), and Hepatocyte Growth Factor (HGF), and

The method according to claim 8, wherein the mesenchymal stem cell migration-enhancing factor is directly administered to the injury siteinjured tissue or the periphery thereof.

14. (Currently Amended) The method according to claim 813, wherein the mesenchymal stem cell migration-enhancing factor is administered by injection.

15. (Currently Amended) The method according to claim 813, wherein the mesenchymal stem cell migration-enhancing factor is topically applied over to the injured tissue and wherein the injured tissue comprises an open wound.

16. (Canceled)

17. (Currently Amended) A method of localizing mesenchymal stem cells to an injury site, which comprises administering to a patient in need thereof mesenchymal stem cells and a mesenchymal stem cell migration-enhancing factor, thereby enhancing the migration and accumulation of the administered mesenchymal stem cells in the injured tissue or suppressing the diffusion of the administered mesenchymal stem cells from the injured tissue to enhance regeneration of the injured tissue,

wherein the mesenchymal stem cell migration-enhancing factor is selected from the group consisting of Epidermal Growth Factor (EGF), Heparin Binding Epidermal Growth Factor (HB-EGF), Transforming Growth Factor-alpha (TGF- α), α -thrombin, Platelet-Derived Growth Factor-AB (PDGF-AB), Platelet-Derived Growth Factor-BB (PDGF-BB), basic Fibroblast Growth Factor (bFGF), hyaluronic acid, Insulin-like Growth Factor-I (IGF-I), and Hepatocyte Growth Factor (HGF)-, and

The method according to claim 8, wherein the mesenchymal stem cells are administered to the circulatory system and the mesenchymal stem cell migration-enhancing factor is administered by injection directly to the injured tissue or the periphery thereof.

18. (Currently Amended) The method according to claim 4713, further comprising administering mesenchymal stem cells directly to the injured tissue or its periphery, before, after

or simultaneously with the administration of the mesenchymal stem cell migration-enhancing factor.

19. (Currently Amended) ~~The method according to claim 17, of localizing mesenchymal stem cells to an injury site, which comprises administering to a patient in need thereof mesenchymal stem cells and a mesenchymal stem cell migration-enhancing factor, thereby enhancing the migration and accumulation of the administered mesenchymal stem cells in the injured tissue or suppressing the diffusion of the administered mesenchymal stem cells from the injured tissue to enhance regeneration of the injured tissue, wherein the mesenchymal stem cell migration-enhancing factor is selected from the group consisting of Epidermal Growth Factor (EGF), Heparin Binding Epidermal Growth Factor (HB-EGF), Transforming Growth Factor-alpha (TGF- α), α -thrombin, Platelet-Derived Growth Factor-AB (PDGF-AB), Platelet-Derived Growth Factor-BB (PDGF-BB), basic Fibroblast Growth Factor (bFGF), hyaluronic acid, Insulin-like Growth Factor-1 (IGF-1), and Hepatocyte Growth Factor (HGF), and~~ wherein the mesenchymal stem cell migration-enhancing factor is administered as a complex with atelocollagen by injection directly into the injured tissue.

20. (Currently Amended) A method of localizing mesenchymal stem cells to an injury site, which comprises administering to a patient in need thereof mesenchymal stem cells and a mesenchymal stem cell migration-enhancing factor, thereby enhancing the migration and accumulation of the administered mesenchymal stem cells in the injured tissue or suppressing the diffusion of the administered mesenchymal stem cells from the injured tissue to enhance regeneration of the injured tissue,

wherein the mesenchymal stem cell migration-enhancing factor is selected from the group consisting of Epidermal Growth Factor (EGF), Heparin Binding Epidermal Growth Factor (HB-EGF), Transforming Growth Factor-alpha (TGF- α), α -thrombin, Platelet-Derived Growth Factor-AB (PDGF-AB), Platelet-Derived Growth Factor-BB (PDGF-BB), basic Fibroblast Growth Factor (bFGF), hyaluronic acid, Insulin-like Growth Factor-1 (IGF-1), and Hepatocyte Growth Factor (HGF),

wherein the mesenchymal stem cell migration-enhancing factor is administered by injection directly into the injured tissue.

21. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 20, wherein the mesenchymal stem cell migration-enhancing factor is administered by injection of a transplant comprising said mesenchymal stem cell migration-enhancing factor directly into the injured tissue.

22. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 17, in which the migration-enhancing growth factor is PDGF-BB.

23. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 13, in which the migration-enhancing growth factor is PDGF-BB.

24. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 15, in which the migration-enhancing growth factor is PDGF-BB.

25. (Currently Amended) ~~The method of claim 17, in which the growth factor is~~ A method of localizing mesenchymal stem cells to an injury site, which comprises administering to a patient in need thereof mesenchymal stem cells and a mesenchymal stem cell migration-enhancing factor, thereby enhancing the migration and accumulation of the administered mesenchymal stem cells in the injured tissue or suppressing the diffusion of the administered mesenchymal stem cells from the injured tissue to enhance regeneration of the injured tissue, wherein the mesenchymal stem cell migration-enhancing factor is Platelet-Derived Growth Factor-BB (PDGF-BB), and wherein the mesenchymal stem cells are administered to the circulatory system and the mesenchymal stem cell migration-enhancing factor is administered by injection directly to the injured tissue or the periphery thereof.

26. (Canceled)

27. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 20, in which the migration-enhancing growth factor is PDGF-BB.

28. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 21, in which the migration-enhancing growth factor is PDGF-BB.

29. (New) The method according to claim 20, further comprising administering mesenchymal stem cells directly to the injured tissue or its periphery, before, after or simultaneously with the administration of the mesenchymal stem cell migration-enhancing factor.

30. (New) The method of claim 13, in which the migration-enhancing factor is α -thrombin.

31. (New) The method of claim 17, in which the migration-enhancing factor is α -thrombin.

32. (New) The method of claim 20, in which the migration-enhancing factor is α -thrombin.